Payment of Provident Fund Amount

935. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amout Delhi Transport Corporation owes to the Employecs Provident Fund Account till date; and

(b) the way and the time fixed, if any, Government propose to repay the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY) : (a) Rs. 24 crores.

(b) DTC is making all out efforts to generate more funds to enable them to liquidate its committed liablities.

Study on Noise Level in Delhi Hospital

936. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press news item captioned "There's too much din in capital's hospitals' as reported in Pioneer dated 31st October, 1995;

(b) if so, whether a non-Governmental Organisation have conducted study on the Noise level in hospitals in Delhi;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) steps Government have taken/ propose to take to reduce noise pollution in the area adjoining various Government Hospital in the Capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) Studies carried out by a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have revealed high noise levels in some hospitals in Delhi. The study conducted by CPCB has indicated noise levels of 62 to 90 decibels in Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Hospital (LNJP), 53 to 75 decibels in Moolchand Hospital, 50 to 88 decibels in All India Institute of Medical Sciences and 53 to 75 decibels in Mahendra Hospital. The studies carried out by NGO in LNJP, Safdarjung, Moolchand and Mahendra Hospitals have indicated average noise level of 66 to 68 decibels. The ambient noise standards for Industrial, Commercial, Residential areas and the Silence zone are given in the statement (*See* below)

(d) The steps taken/proposed to be taken to reduce noise pollution adjoining various hospitals in the capital include planting of trees and bushes in open spaces between the lanes and the buildings, restriction on the use of pressure horns notifying standards for noise from vehicles and plying of heavy vehicles near the silence zones.

Statement

Study on Noise Level in Delhi Hospital

Ambient Noise Standards

Sl. No.	Area	Leg dB (A)	
		Day Time*	Night Time**
01.	Industrial Area	75	70
02.	Commercial Area	65	55
03.	Residential Area	55	45
04.	Silence Zone	50	40

* Day time — 6.00 AM to 9.00 PM (15 hours)

** Night time —9.00 PM to 6.00 AM (09 hours)

*** Areas upto 100 metres around certain premises like hospitals educational institutions and courts may be declared as silence zones by the competent authority; honking of vehicles horns, use of loudspeakers, bursting of crackers and hawkers noise should be banned in these zones.

\+ Mixed areas should be declared as one or four aforesaid areas by the competent authority and the corresponding limit be applied.